

# Books: Authors: Publishers: News: Reviews: Comment

## The Latest War Books—Some Current Fiction

By Willis Fletcher Johnson

### War and Patriotism

#### Sounding the Reveille of the Nation

**AWAKE! AMERICA.** By William T. Hornaday. Illustrated. Pp. xvii, 197. Moffat, Yard & Co. Dr. Hornaday is not merely a zealous patriot. He is equally thoughtful and discriminating. He has both vision and judgment, discerning needs and exigencies in advance and determining the means by which they are to be met. He reminds us of Sherman, who was accounted a madman in 1861 because he said that instead of the 75,000 troops called by the President we should need a million before the war was ended. Dr. Hornaday incurred disagreement and implied censure because he saw and said what America should do and urged the doing of it. But he was not mad. He was right. He was right when he said that they and all men had had his vision. Well, the need of his prophecy is not yet past, and we therefore welcome his

book as one of the most awakening, inspiring, informing, helpful that have been put forth to rouse America to its needs and duties in the war.

### Sea Power and Freedom

#### From Salamis to the Struggles of the Great War

**SEA POWER AND FREEDOM.** By Gerard F. Finnes. With an introduction by Rear Admiral Sir John Jellicoe. Pp. xiv, 324. Putnam's Sons. The handsome volume before us might well be regarded as a complement to Mahan's monumental work on the "Influence of Sea Power on History." It is a scholarly review and discussion of the part which the exercise of sea power has performed in establishing, enlarging and maintaining human freedom among the nations of the world. Beginning with ancient Egypt and dwelling appreciatively upon the achievements of the Greeks, it is naturally devoted in chief part to the naval deeds of Great Britain. More than once or twice the sea power of the British has saved not merely their own islands from conquest, but also all Europe and, in the present case, the world, from oppression and subjugation. The maritime features of the present war, of course, receive much attention, both in description of actual engagements and maneuvers, and in discussion of the principles involved and the new issues raised by the introduction of submarine warfare. The introduction of numerous fine historical illustrations adds to the attractiveness of work which must be reckoned with as one of the serious, thought-inspiring and thoroughly "worth while" volumes of the day.

it there. Obviously, it is there because it belongs there, because the author is portraying with sincere realism a life which is filled with just such action. It is a tale of the old-time cowboys, of "rustlers" and "gunmen," and of one fearless man, who could shoot quickly and straight, and his single-handed victory over the gang. Every page is replete with interest, and is instinct with the truth of a phase of life now almost past, but once of commanding importance in our Far Western commonwealths.

### Some New Novels

#### A Fine Romance of the Cumberland Mountains

**THE WAY OUT.** By Emerson Hough. Illustrated. 12mo, pp. 312. D. Appleton & Co. Mr. Hough continues in his latest work his searching studies of American life—folk-life, we might call it—on this occasion taking the Cumberland mountaineers for his theme. It is a brave adventure, since readers will remember with enthusiasm other stories of the mountains with which this is sure to be compared; but it is justified in the event. The touch is sure, the exaggeration of dialect neither the exaggeration of dialect nor conduct and what not with which some lesser writers seek to embellish their work, nor the over-sentimentality in which it would be easy to in-

## Interesting Personalities

### Book News and Miscellany

#### The Beauty of Vice

**Mr. Harris's Apotheosis of Oscar Wilde**

**OSCAR WILDE.** His Life and Confessions. By Frank Harris. Together with Memories of Oscar Wilde. By Bernard Shaw. New York, 1918. Pp. vii, 610. Printed and published by the Century Company. Oscar Wilde is both fortunate and unfortunate in his biography. He is fortunate because of the intense sympathy and devotion toward him which Mr. Harris manifests. The admiration of Boswell for his great friend is "as water unto wine" to the impassioned adoration, not to say adulation, with which Mr. Harris incessantly regards

#### Wit, Old and New

**From Ibn Khallikan to the Two Maces**

**A BOSWELL OF BAGHDAD.** By E. V. Lucas. 12mo, pp. 225. The George H. Doran Company.

In this latest book of Mr. Lucas's we have a collection of essays arranged in the form of "The Arabian Nights," the work of Ibn Khallikan, who as a Kadi attained high distinctions during his lifetime, and who ruled over the provinces of Syria. The author has gathered these essays from a book entitled "Ibn Khallikan's Biographical Dictionary," translated from the Arabic by Ibn Mac Guekin de Slane. There is a thoroughness in the methods used by Ibn Khallikan, and much of human nature and of human life.

Mr. Lucas, with the faithful record of a biographer, relates that Ibn Khallikan was the son of a college professor and was born in 1211. Before he was two years old he was receiving instruction from his father, and while he was a professor at Cairo Ibn Khallikan collected the material for his dictionary. Mr. Lucas's book is a dictionary of much interest, not because he pretends to have any great gift for selection or as a biographer, but because it is a book of wit. Mr. Lucas takes account of everything. The author brings into these pages poets, ascetics, inventors and all learned men. There is very little about the lives of women in this book, about the only exception being Buran, who became the wife of Khalif Al-Mamun, who, according to Ibn Khallikan, was induced to marry her by the high esteem he bore her father. The lavishness and rejoicings in the festivities after the wedding were such as had never been witnessed before. Mr. Lucas has filled the pages of this interest book with anecdotes, thus:

In sarcasm, Al-Yazidi was hard pressed by Abu Obaid, who was a very Mr. Brown (vide Bret Harte) in being of "so sarcastic a humor that every one in Basra who had a tongue in his head was obliged to flatter him." When dining once with Musa Ibn Ar-Rahman Al-Kilali, one of the pages spilled some gravy on his shirt. "You have broken your cloak," said Musa, "but I shall give you ten others in place of it." "Do not mind! You gravy can do no harm."

Another of Al-Yazidi's satirical efforts, which has no forerunner in Ibn Khallikan's recollection, is this, leveled at another mean acquaintance, meanness, indeed, being one of the unpardonable offences, especially in the eyes of those who lived on patronage. "Be careful not to lose the friendship of Abu 'l-Mikail when you approach to partake of his meal. Breaking his crumplet is for as bad as breaking one of your limbs. His guests fast against their will and without meaning to obtain temporal reward which is granted to fastings."

Apocryphal of sarcasm, the Merwanide Omeiride, who reigned in Spain, received from Mizar, the sovereign of the East, a letter to which he replied in these terms: "You entreat us because you have heard of us. Had we ever heard of you we should make you a reply."

In the remainder of his volume Mr. Lucas delves into speculation of the character of the best jokes in relation to "The Oldest Joke" and so on; to nurses, beauties, fancy dress, etc. In speaking of the best example of humor he remarks that "the question of the best joke is a very old one, though it is since they ceased the gavel of the nation by vanishing, is still potent. Though gone they still jest; or, at least, their jests did not all vanish with them."

"I saw your wife at the masked ball last night," the first Mac would say in his rich brogue, "my wife was at the ball in the white dress, and would reply in a brogue of deeper richness, 'but it wasn't a masked ball.' The first Mac would then exclaim, 'and you were not there,' and he countered with the devastating question, 'Was that her face?'"

#### An English Family

**THE GRAPTONS.** By Archibald Marshall. 12mo, pp. 327. Dodd, Mead & Co.

English rural domestic life is obviously Mr. Marshall's métier. He gives us some of the delightful details of the Clinton family, and now gives us his second of a series on the Graptons, who are on the whole more interesting than the Clintons—though the latter are more interesting in that they are saying much and doing little, while the Graptons are doing much and saying little. There is no problem and no serious story to read as essential to "strength." Nobody "throws fits," either physically or morally. We are not sure that there is a trace of "punch." But there are human interest, sympathy, character, heart, soul and life as actual people actually live it. It is a work which cannot be read without commendation to lovers of good literature.

"Coelebs," by F. E. Mills Young (12mo, pp. 311, John Lane Company), is the earliest of a series of books, "The Foolishness of Lillian," by Jessie Champion (12mo, pp. 240, John Lane Company), is a tale of an English girl who, having been married to a London palace, "Mr. Manley," by G. I. Whitham (12mo, pp. 304, John Lane Company), is a somewhat sentimental English novel. "The Road to the Stars," by Vere Shortt and Frances H. Matthews (12mo, pp. 310, John Lane Company), is a story in which love and adventure, black magic and hidden tragedy, are commingled in interesting fashion.

#### There were times when

**God didn't seem to care**

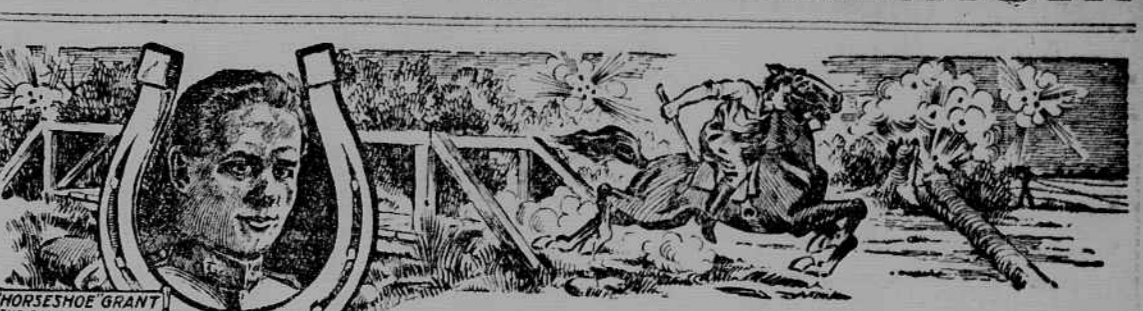
When, friendless, fundless, a stranger in great teeming London, she struggled for a foothold. There were times when food was all that mattered, and at all times her path was beset with uncertainty and peril.

#### A Girl Alone

is the rich, palpitating story of a plucky young woman, who, in a long struggle, beat the world that tried to crush her. Yet, through it all the author preserves our faith in humanity, and even in the very depths there is found the helping hand and heaven of human kindness.

At All Bookstores—*"A Girl Alone"* by Howel Evans. \$1.50 net.

New York G. P. Putnam's London



## Straight into the jaws of death dashed "Horseshoe" Grant

Ammunition was needed for one of the big guns. The orderly who was to carry the message was shot dead. Grant jumped on his horse and rode safely through the storm of shells to the rear. This is only one of a score of amazing escapades of this boy with the "horseshoe" luck.

No wonder they called him "Horseshoe" Grant—this young Canadian artilleryman. He went over with the first contingent and was assigned a place in the deadly sacrifice battery at Ypres, Sanctuary Woods, Givanchy, Vimy Ridge and other great battles. Time and time again he saw his comrades wiped out, yet he, through some miracle, was spared. And here is his story: the story of the artillery—probably the most thrilling, most inspiring, most unbelievable of all the wonder tales now appearing. You miss one of the great human documents of the war if you fail to read the story of this courageous boy. Ask any bookseller for

## S. O. S. Stand To! By Sergeant Reginald Grant

Illustrated \$1.50 net.—THIS IS AN APPLETON BOOK—D. Appleton & Company—Publishers

## Book News

### Authors and Publishers and Their Doings

G. P. Putnam's Sons will shortly publish "A Short History of France," by Mme. Duclaux, who is the wife of Professor Emile Duclaux, director of the Pasteur Institute in Paris. Mme. Duclaux is as well known under her maiden name (Agnes Mary Frances Robinson), as her married name, having produced approximately one or more volumes a year since 1878. She writes chiefly of poetry, history and biography, also having received recognition for the volumes she has written in the French language.

"Out of the Jaws of Hunland," by Corporal Fred McMullen and Private Jack Evans of the Canadian forces, which will be published by G. P. Putnam's Sons, is not only the experiences of the writers in a German prison camp and their attempts to escape, but also a description of the internal conditions in Germany.

Dr. Russell H. Conwell, author of "Acres of Diamonds," is writing a new book, containing a message to the soldiers in the training camps, which will be published by Harper & Brothers this month.

Brentano's announces for publication this month Dr. Edward Stillebauer's new novel entitled "The Ship of Death." The book is based on the tragedy of the Lusitania. The author is a German, but one of those Germans who believe the law of right is wiser than the law of might.

Messrs. Constable have begun the publication of a new monthly entitled "The Anglo-Italian Review," and edited by Edward Hutton. The magazine will deal with all matters of Anglo-Italian interest in literature, art, science, politics and economics. The first number contains a message from Mr. Lloyd George and a poem on Lord Kitchener by Sir Rennell Rodd, British Ambassador to Italy.

The Macmillan Company will publish on June 4 "The Development of Japan," by Kenneth Scott Latourette, professor of history in Denison University. It is an account of the history of the Japanese Empire and an explanation of the politics of Japan. "The Rise of the Spanish Empire in the Old World and in the New," by B. Harriman, professor of history in Harvard, is to be complete in four volumes. The first volume, "The Middle Ages," and the second volume, "The Catholic Kings," are now ready.

The Macmillan Company offer for publication on June 7 a collection of poems entitled "Twenty," by Stella Benson. This is Mrs. Benson's first volume of poems, though she has many friends through her stories, "I Possess" and "This is the End." Freeman Tilden has written a new novel entitled "Khaki: How Trevick Got Into the War," a collection of the Macmillan Company early this month. The story is timely in its setting, as it is typical of much that has taken place in many American towns.

Professor George Pierce Baker, of Harvard University, and "The Workshop," his experimental theatre and dramatic laboratory, has written an introductory essay for "The Workshop," a collection of the series of Harvard plays which Brentano's hopes to bring to the notice of the public. The plays are worth having and knowing, and will no doubt be of great interest to lovers of art and literature.

The Century Company announces for publication a translation of "The Biology of War," by Professor G. F. Nicolai, for which the author was sentenced to prison in Germany. The work is supposed to be one of the most sensational of all indictments of German policy and the book reaches America via Switzerland.

Doubleday, Page & Co. will publish the first week of this month, "German Plans for the Next War," by J. B. W. Gardiner, military critic of "The New York Times." The author's explanation throws us new light on the German thefts of materials and money from conquered territories.

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By EDWARD FRANK ALLEN: With a Special Statement by President Wilson

This is a book of reassurance and information about the million or so American soldiers and sailors called into training to serve their country; and it should be of unusual interest and helpfulness to all those other millions of Americans who wish them the best that money can buy and brains can get. It was written in cooperation with Raymond B. Fosdick, Chairman of the War Department and Navy Department Commissions on Training Camp Activities. Illustrated. Price \$1.25. (Give it to his mother.)

## THE WAR-WHIRL IN WASHINGTON

By FRANK WARD O'MALLEY

This is O'Malley of *The Sun*. The Century Co. sent him to Washington to get all the laughs there were to be discovered in the ancient city on the Potomac which was once staid but is now stimulated—oh, so very stimulated (but not by the Demon made from grains). And O'Malley got the laughs. Illustrations by Tony Sarg in the spirit of the text. Price \$1.50. (Americans can afford to laugh a bit now. Come on.)

Published by THE CENTURY CO., New York City

## Sea Power and Freedom

A HISTORICAL STUDY

By Gerard Finnes

Introduction by Bradley Allen Fiske, Rear-Admiral U. S. N.

80. 32 Illustrations. \$3.50 Net

Until Admiral Mahan published his epochal book, "The Influence of Sea Power upon History," in 1890, few had realized what a distinctive influence sea power has been on history. But Admiral Mahan only took up the period between 1660 and 1873. This most important and readable volume discusses the question throughout all the ages, including actions in the present war. A volume that cannot fail to be of greatest interest to the intelligent reader.

New York G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS London

publication of Braithwaite's "Anthology of Magazine Verse for 1917." It is the sixth in Mr. Braithwaite's annual anthologies of this kind.

Edward J. Clode is about to publish a new novel, "The Revelers," a presiding story of Old Yorkshire; a new "Shorty McCabe" story by Sewell Ford, and "The Story of the Salonica Army," by G. Ward Price.

Charles Scribner's Sons will publish two particularly interesting books on June 8: "The War Letters of Edmond Genet," edited with an introduction by Grace Ellery Channing and with a preface by John Jay Chapman, and "The Flower and the Bee: Plant Life and Pollination," by John S. Lovell.

Word has just come from England that Captain Alan Bott, holder of the Military Cross, a fighting pilot in the British R. F. C. and author of one of the best of the flying books, "Cavalry of the Clouds" (Doubleday, Page & Co.), has been reported severely wounded and a prisoner of the Turks in Palestine. How it occurred the dispatch does not say, but probably his aeroplane was brought down behind the Turkish lines. It was only a few weeks ago that inquiry in London as to the whereabouts of this gifted young flier and author brought word that he had been ordered to Palestine. Captain Bott was a young newspaper man at the outbreak of the war and enlisted as a dispatch rider. He went from that into the air service, where he first served as an observation officer. Later he returned to England for additional training and became a pilot.

## CASTE THREE

By GERTRUDE M. SHIELDS

You have not read anything else with just the flavor of this new novel. It is a love story with a background of small-city life in the Middle West. It has humor, it has satire, it has vigor and verve of style that is delightful and refreshing.

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THE CENTURY CO.

THE UNWILLING VESTAL By Edward Lucas White Author of "EL SUPREMO" JUST PUBLISHED

## MEN IN WAR

By ANDREAS LATZKO

The Boston Transcript says: "Men in War" will unquestionably rank with the greatest expressions wrung from the human soul by these years of agony and horror. The publishers announce a first edition of ten thousand copies. One hopes that not fifty such editions will exhaust the public demand for such a book."

The Philadelphia Ledger says: "The man who wrote this book has done a magnificent and fearless service for humanity and democracy."

The Philadelphia Press says: "By far the outstanding masterpiece of the war."

The New York Sun says: "Most war books are ephemeral, but 'Men in War' deserves to live. It has all of the flaming red realism that characterizes many personal narratives of the war, and it has in addition an artistry of style that sets it far above them."

Theodore Dreiser says: "Far and away the best war book I have read."

Prof. Stuart P. Sherman says: "It is a book written with impressive bitterness and memorable power of expression. I wish a copy of it would be put in every household of the Central Empire."

John Macy says: "This book is noble and fine and ultimate. The hatred in the book is the right kind of hatred. Latzko is an artist."

Prof. Brander Matthews says: "Of all the war books I have read, this seems to me the most powerful."

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